VIII.   CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

A.   Criteria Previously Applied

The **Management Plan** (De Cunzo and Catts 1990: 191-196) outlined a set of interim criteria and procedures for applying them. These were to serve in evaluating the significance/ National Register eligibility of historical archaeological resources until more detailed and specific criteria and procedures were developed for individual Historic Contexts.

The goals of intensive survey and the evaluation process are to establish site boundaries, to determine National Register eligibility, and in the case of eligible sites, to assemble sufficient data upon which to base data recovery/ treatment plans. The process, for each site identified in...reconnaissance survey[s] and not eliminated from further consideration..., consists essentially of three steps. The first is preparation of a plan for data acquisition. This plan may be comprised of a general methodology applicable to a group of sites being considered together, for example in the case of a Section 106 project; alternatively, separate plans may be warranted for individual sites. In either case, the plan proposes the methodology to be implemented in order to collect the data required to meet the goals of the evaluation process. Typically, provisions for all of the following will be included:

Historical and Oral Historical Research
    To collect data for goals
    To collect data regarding site representativeness
    To survey available documentation regarding nature and
        extent

Architectural (Standing Structures (sic) - if relevant)
    To consider the data potential

Landscape
    To consider the data potential

Archaeological Field Testing
    To determine boundaries
    To determine temporal integrity (see Step 3 discussion
        below)
    To determine physical integrity in the following
        categories:
        Architecture
        Land use and landscape
        Other features and deposits
        Artifact assemblages
        Faunal and ethnobotanical remains

298

Implementation of the data acquisition plan and preparation of the project report form the second step of the process. Third is the evaluation for National Register eligibility itself, which it is proposed should consist of measuring the site and associated research data against a series of criteria:

A. Historical Documentation and Oral History
    1.   Must be <u>extensive</u>, given the site type, location, temporal period
    2.   Must be <u>diverse</u>, given the site type, location, temporal period, including -
        a.   Maps, photographs, and other graphics
        b.   Personal data - demographics as well as data on daily life and activities
        c.   Economic data on products, tools, equipment, investments, improvements, exchange networks, etc.
        d.   Data on land use and buildings
    3.   Potential for oral historical information

NOTE: It is recognized that historical archaeological sites of certain time periods, locations, and property types may possess significant information even when historical and oral historical documentation is lacking. The purpose of this criterion is not to eliminate such sites from National Register eligibility; it is however expected that when this is the case the evaluation report will demonstrate the significance of the site is unaffected by the lack or minimal nature of the associated documentation.

B. Archaeological Integrity
    1.   Temporal - Either
        a.   Short-term undisturbed (ie. an abandoned farm)
        b.   Long-term occupation, with good archaeological integrity across time, so that change within the context of a single property can be explored
    2.   Physical Integrity must be good in the following categories
        a.   Architectural (Above and/or below ground)
        b.   Land Use - for the entire property
            (1)   This is not meant to suggest that archaeological excavations of sites must extend beyond project rights-of-way to include the entire acreage of the historic property, for example a farm. Rather it is meant to suggest that just as historical archaeological investigations of these sites include documentary research, the surviving landscape of the entire historic property should be examined. Those properties to be

considered most significant will be those for which at least some of the cultural landscape features from the period of the sites' significance survive today. The cultural landscape is to be seen as one other resource type, supplementing the documents, archaeological remains, and surviving architecture.
   c.   Features and Strata
   d.   Artifacts: Range of types and distribution
   e.   Faunal and Ethnobotanical Remains

NOTE: Meeting all of these criteria for integrity also represents the ideal situation. Once again, in cases where integrity is low in one or more of the above categories, the evaluation report must consider the impact on the site's overall significance, and demonstrate that the site nevertheless possesses the potential to yield data important in American history and cultural studies.

C. Representativeness: To be measured across the following categories
   1.   For all site types
      a.   Geographical Zones
      b.   Temporal Periods
      c.   Number of Potential Resources within the Property Type, Time Period, and Geographical Zone, and considering their status regarding threats by erosion, development, agriculture, etc.
      d.   Ethnicity
      e.   Socioeconomic Differences
   2.   For farms
      a.   Farm Type (such as Market vs. Subsistence, Peach vs. Grain vs. Vegetables vs. Corn/Poultry, etc.)
   3.   For all domestic sites
      a.   Tenure: Owner-occupied vs. Tenant

NOTE: Representativeness is meant to be measured in terms of sites excavated within that property type and in terms of the estimated total universe of sites within that property type, time period, and geographical zone. Consideration is also to be given to the extent, nature and level of threats to the resource base in evaluating resources in terms of the total universe or population of comparable sites.

D. Research Questions and Needs
   1.   The ability of the site to yield significant research data relative to research questions identified in this Plan and/or in the appropriate Historic Contexts, when developed